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Serial No.: 09/708,890

REMARKS

The Applicants and the undersigned thank Examiner Ouellette for his careful review of this application. The Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter based on minor revisions to the independent claims in Claims 70-78. The Applicants have amended independent Claims 70, 73, and 76 as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 18-25 and 27-81 have been rejected. Claims 18-25, 27-69, and 79-81 have been canceled. Applicants have amended Claims 70, 71, 73, 76 and 77. Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 70-79 are pending in the subject application with none having been allowed. The remaining independent claims for this application are Claims 70, 73, and 76.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected Claims 18, 31, 41, 48, 54, 66, 70, 73, 76, and 79 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. More specifically, the Examiner contends that the introduction of the limitation "without the processing system receiving identification information from the passenger" was not disclosed or suggested in the specification, and is therefore new matter. The Applicants have canceled Claims 18, 31, 41, 48, 54, 66, and 79 and amended Claims 70, 73, and 76 to remove this limitation. Applicants have canceled the above-noted claims without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution of this Application. Applicants have not acquiesced to any such rejection and reserve the right to address the patentability of any additional claim features in the future. Applicants reserve the right to submit claims defining the subject matter of the canceled claims in a continuation patent application. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 18, 20, 28-32, 38-43, 45-50, 52-56, 62-63, 65-67, 69-70, and 72-79 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,127,917 to Tuttle ("Tuttle") in view of an article published in Air Transport World by Perry Flint titled "Being last is not always the worst thing" ("Flint"). The Examiner rejected Claims 21-25, 27, 33-36, 44, 51, 57-61, 64, 68, 71, 80, and 81 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over

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Tuttle in view of *Flint* and further in view of Official Notice. The Examiner rejected Claims 19 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Tuttle* in view of *Flint* and further in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0120518 to Carney.

Applicants have canceled Claims 18-25, 27-69, and 79-81. Applicants have canceled the above-noted claims without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution of this Application. Applicants reserve the right to submit claims defining the subject matter of the canceled claims in a continuation patent application. Applicants have amended independent Claims 70, 73, and 76 to incorporate the allowable subject matter suggested by the Examiner. *See Official Action* pp. 21-23. The Examiner's rejection of Claims 70, 73, and 76 has been rendered moot by these claim amendments. Applicants have not addressed each specific rejection of the independent and dependent claims because Applicants submit that independent claims 70, 73, and 76, as amended, are allowable over the cited references, as discussed above. Applicants have not acquiesced to any such rejection and reserve the right to address the patentability of any additional claim features in the future. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent Claims 70, 73, and 76, as amended, is respectfully requested.

III. Dependent Claims 71, 72, 74, 75, 77, and 78

The Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified claims are allowable because the independent claims from which they depend are patentable over the cited references. The Applicants also respectfully submit that the recitations of these dependent claims are of patentable significance. Applicants amended Claims 71 and 77 to maintain proper antecedent basis with the amendments to independent Claims 70 and 76 that were suggested by the Examiner. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the pending rejection of dependent Claims 71, 72, 74, 75, 77, and 78.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action mailed on March 6, 2006 and the Advisory Official Action mailed on June 20, 2006. The Applicants have amended the claims and submitted remarks to overcome the rejections of Claims 18-25 and 27-81. The Applicants and the undersigned thank Examiner Ouellette for considering these

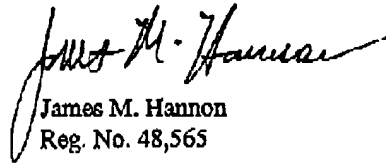
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amendments and remarks. The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Such action is hereby courteously solicited

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, or that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (404) 572-4691.

Respectfully submitted,


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